

# Theory Book Review

HUMS3001 Lecture Six

Ben Miller

## Lecture Overview

- Course Feedback
- Topic Review
  - Liberty / Freedom
  - Media / Democracy
  - Speech Acts
  - Censorship
  - Responsibility
- Module Two Design

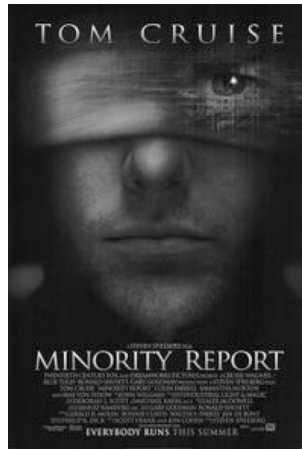
## Feedback

- Do not write your name
- 10 mins
  - What have you enjoyed so far?
  - What could have been improved so far?
  - Wiki impressions?
  - Tutorials: Wiki / Face-to-face / Blended ?
  - Module two expectations?

## Liberty

- Relationship between individuals, governments and society
- Freedom (with limits) from tyranny
- “Power can be rightfully exercised over any member of a civilised society, against his will, [...] to prevent harm to others”.

- *Minority Report* - the limits of prevention



## Wiki Liberty

- Triadic freedom:

- Agent
- Obstacle
- Goal

- Liberty = license with responsibility

- Freedom = entitlement with obligation

## Democracy

- Wiki Democracy:
  - Characteristics of democratic regime
    - Constitutionality
    - Participation
    - Rational Choice
- “Most Australians today are not democrats, that is, people who believe in popular rule”.

## Media

- Wiki Media:
  - “As in any modern liberal democratic state, ‘the press’ plays a crucial role in the Australian political culture, which is to facilitate debates on public policy decisions between the state and citizenry”
- “Liberal institutions (including the media) have a responsibility to help individuals become responsible subjects.”

## Speech Acts

- Wiki:

- ““Free Speech” is a bridge which connect[s] the government and the people and allows them to build up a better society [and] country together.”

- “The uttering of the words [... can be the] leading incident in the performance of an act”.

## Free Speech

- Wiki Debate: are speech restrictions inherent in the definition of free speech?

- Claiming something to be free speech “will always be evidence that a political line has been drawn rather than a line that denies politics entry into the forum of public discourse”.

## Hate Speech

- Wiki: Harm principle is inherent in the definition of free speech, so hate speech is not (liberal) free speech?
- “hate speech enacts hatred discursively in complex ways, and with concrete negative consequences for its targets”.

## Violence and Sex - harmful speech?

- Dexter



- Number 96



## Censorship

- Subterranean Censorship:

- Curry Jansen states “every citizen of an enlightened society is wired to the Tower and yet remains only marginally aware of the attachment”.

- Marketplace Censorship:

- Propaganda, institutional/structural aspects to pre-censorship

## Reading Censorship

- Herman and Chomsky

- Reading Propaganda

- to read what is suppressed as well as “the attention given to fact—its placement, tone, and repetitions, the framework of analysis within which it is presented, and the related facts that accompany it and give it meaning (or preclude understanding)” (xv)

# Responsibility

- Wiki:

- “we are 'pre-programmed' for responsibility, [...] it is the society in which a person exists, that determines what that person's responsibilities are.”

- “Because there is no such thing as freedom, we must take responsibility for our actions”.

- *Media Watch* “Censorship or Common Sense?” 24 August 2009.





- “Media Favours Coalition” *ABC News*.  
2 Sept 2009



## Course Design: Module Two

- Lectures
  - Lecture 7
  - Lecture 8
  - Lecture 9
  - Lecture 10
  - Lecture 11
  - (Lecture 12 - Review)
- Case studies
  - Radio: Alan Jones, Kyle and Jackie O
  - TV and Games: language, nudity, violence, suicide
  - Film: festivals, classified films (Rs and Xs)
  - Literature: Malley, Demidenko, Harcourt, Pornography
  - Art: Henson, Hookey
  - Laws: Anti-terror laws, Bill of rights
  - Universities: Young Liberals, Mees
  - Journalism: Lampathakis, Harvey/McManus, Mohammed cartoons
  - Religious 'Propaganda'

## Lecture topics, Weeks 8-13

- Lecture 7: Radio & Riots (& TV)
- Lecture 8: Anti-terror (Religion and Journ.)
- Lecture 9: Art (& Games & Cinema)
- Lecture 10: Literature (& Cinema)
- Lecture 11: Academic freedom
- Lecture 12: Review and Exam Prep

## Wiki Pages, Weeks 8-12

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| ● Alan Jones and the Cronulla Riots                              | ● Academics in trouble   |
| ● Gordon Ramsay, and Kyle and Jackie O                           | ● Classified Games       |
| ● Bill Henson  | ● Literary Hoaxes        |
| ● Mohammed Cartoons  | ● (Criminal) Journalists |
| ● <i>Nine Songs</i> , <i>Mysterious Skin</i> and <i>Ken Park</i> | ● Artists in trouble     |
|  | ● Anti-terror laws       |